

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please cancel claims 1-7, 17, 19-23 and 25-26, as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled) A large-waterplane-area ship, comprising:
a hull structure having a plurality of exclusive hull portions protruding from a main body of the hull structure, each hull portion having a length shorter than the length of the main body and each hull portion comprising a buoyant portion having a buoyancy wherein the combined buoyancy of each hull portion is sufficient to support the main body above a waterline, and wherein each of the buoyant portions is at least partially above the waterline during operation of the ship.
2. (Canceled) The ship of claim 1 wherein the plurality of hull portions comprise a triangular pattern.
3. (Canceled) The ship of claim 1 wherein the plurality of hull portions comprise a quadrangular pattern.
4. (Canceled) The ship of claim 1 wherein the plurality of hull portions comprise a octangular pattern.
5. (Canceled) The ship of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of exclusive hull portions each has a Froude number greater than approximately 0.8 during a cruising mode of operation of the ship.
6. (Canceled) A large-waterplane-area ship, comprising:
a hull structure having a plurality of exclusive hull portions protruding from a main body of the hull structure, each hull portion having a Froude number greater than approximately 0.8 during a cruising mode of operation of the ship, each hull portion comprising a buoyant portion at least partially above a waterline during the cruising mode of operation.

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